

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): ~~Relay~~A relay set (4, 4') for the optical system of a rigid endoscope, said optical system comprising an objective (1) at the distal end, an ocular (5) at the proximal end and between them a relay lens system ~~consisting of~~including several relay sets (2, 3, 4), said relay set (4, 4') ~~consisting of~~including two half sets (4.1, 4.2) having the same lens units (11.1, 12.1, 13.1; 11.2, 12.2, 13.2) arranged symmetrically with respect to the ~~centre~~center (10) of the relay set (4, 4'), each half set (4.1, 4.2) ~~consisting of~~including two positive power lens units (11.1, 13.1; 11.2, 13.2) at the ends and one negative power lens unit (12.1; 12.2) in the middle, ~~characterized in that~~wherein each half set is of Triplet design.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): ~~Relay~~The relay set according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the negative power of the a middle lens unit (12.1, 12.2) is of a strength to compensate curvature of field aberration also for at least one other relay set (2, 3).

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): ~~Relay~~The relay set according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the an outer end lens unit (11.1, 11.2) is of plane-convex form and the a middle lens unit (12.1, 12.2) is of plane-concave form, said lens units

(11.1, 12.1; 11.2, 12.2) being cemented together at the plane faces.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): ~~Relay~~The relay set according to claim 1,
~~characterised in that the~~wherein an inner end lens unit (13.1, 13.2) is a cemented
doublet.